

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/961,081	OFEK ET AL.	
	Examiner Richard Chang	Art Unit 2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to 7/3/2006.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4-10, 12-13, 17-21, 23-27, 29, 31, 33-43, 45-56, 58-65 and 67-74, renumbered 1-61.
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Response to Amendment**

1. Applicants' amendments, filed on 07/03/2006, with respect to Claims 1, 4-10, 12-13, 17-21, 23-27, 29, 31, 33-43, 45-56, 58-65 and 67-74 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35U.S.C.103 rejections have been withdrawn. None of the previously cited reference teaches the Claims 1, 4-10, 12-13, 17-21, 23-27, 29, 31, 33-43, 45-56, 58-65 and 67-74.

Claims 2-3, 11,14-16, 22, 28, 30, 32, 44 and 57 had been canceled.

Claims 63-74 are newly added.

### **Examiner's Amendment**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment had been given in a telephone interview with David Sitrick on 9/15/2006. The application has been amended for claims 21, 23, 54 and 56 as follows:

In claims 21 and 54, the end period ‘.’ is changed to comma ‘,’, then append the content of the canceled claim 66 to the end of the claim as “, wherein the time frames for each of the input channels from the plurality of grooming subsystems are grouped according to a respective common cycle; wherein the time frames for each of the output channels from the plurality of grooming subsystems are grouped according to a respective common cycle of a plurality of common cycles; and wherein all the common cycles have a common duration and are associated with respective ones of the input channels and the output channels from the plurality of grooming subsystems.”.

In claim 56, the end period ‘.’ is changed to comma ‘,’, then append to the end of the claim as “, wherein the time frames for each of the input channels are grouped according to a respective common cycle.”.

In claim 23, the clause “as claim 66” is changed to “as claim 21”.

Claim 66 has been canceled.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1, 4-10, 12-13, 17-21, 23-27, 29, 31, 33-43, 45-56, 58-65 and 67-74 are allowed.

#### ***Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance***

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art along or in combination fails to teach or make obvious the following limitations:

“means for mapping for each of the time frames associated with the at least one output channels from a respective subset of time frames for respective ones of

the input channels to provide a defined time delay between respective time frames associated with the transfer of each of data units from the respective input channel to the respective at least one output channel" as recited in the *independent claim 1,*

"means for mapping a scheduling of transfer of data units from a respective subset of the time frames for the respective ones of the input channels to a respective one of the time frames for each of the output channels to provide a defined time delay between transfer of each of the respective data units from the respective input channel to the respective output channel" as recited in the *independent claims 21 and 43,*

"means for mapping for each of the time frames of each of the output channels a predefined subset of the data traits from a respective subset of the time frames for a respective subset of the input channels to provide a defined time delay between transfer of each of the respective data units from the respective input channel to the respective output channel" as recited in the *independent claims 27 and 54, and*

"means for mapping a scheduling of transfer of data units for each respective one of the time frames from the respective the input channel to at least one the time frames for at least ones of the output channels to provide a defined time delay between transfer of each of the respective data units from the respective input channel to the respective output channel" as recited in the *independent claims 31, 56, and 63.*

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3129. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on (571) 272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*RK*  
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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER